CLAIMS

1. System for lifting and lowering an object, such as a vehicle, comprising a group of at least two mobile lifting columns, each lifting column comprising: a displaceable frame with a standing mast part; a carrier displaceable along the mast part for engaging the object to be lifted; a drive for moving the carrier along the mast part; a control for controlling at least the drive; and communication means communicating with at least other lifting columns in the group via a transmission or broadcast path,
characterized in that
at least one of the lifting columns in the group comprises selectively user operable selection means for, when actuated, selecting any of the lifting columns from the group for a sub-group.

2. System according to claim 1, wherein communications in the system are, at least during selection of said at least one lifting column for the sub-group, based on master-slave principles, and a selected lifting column, being the first selected column for a sub-group, is as a result of first selection thereof a master lifting column.

3. System according to claim 2, wherein at least one slave column, being a slave column during at least selection, comprises operating means for combined actuation of the lifting columns in the sub-group of selected lifting columns in operation during lifting of the object.

4. System according to claim 1, 2 or 3, wherein the communication means are of a wireless, such as radiographic, type for contact with the control of the lifting column.

5. System as claimed in one of the foregoing claims, wherein the selection means of the master column are adapted to transmit a delete signal, at the beginning of the selection process, to at least one other lifting column or to those lifting column(s) which was or were selected at an earlier stage with the relevant master column in a sub-group, in order to cancel the previous selection thereof.

6. System as claimed in claim 2 and 5, wherein the selection means of the master column gives to a user an indication of each lifting column available for selection in the sub-group, and comprise associated selectors for selecting lifting columns for the sub-group to be selected as slave columns.

7. System as claimed in at least claim 2, wherein the selection means of a slave column are adapted to read and adopt an identification for the purpose of selecting the slave column in a sub-group associated with the master column, and for thereafter addressing the slave column in the process of lifting the object.

8. System as claimed in claim 7, wherein the identification can be read from an identification card associated with the master column.

9. System as claimed in claim 7 or 8, wherein the identification is a designation of the master column, an identification of the identification card, a random number generated for instance by the master column or a date and time designation generated by the system.

10. Method of selecting at least one lifting column in a system for lifting and lowering an object, such as a vehicle, the system comprising a group of at least two mobile lifting columns, each lifting column comprising: a displaceable frame with a standing mast part; a carrier displaceable along the mast part for engaging the object to be lifted; a drive for moving the carrier

along the mast part; a control for controlling at least the drive; and communication means communicating with at least other lifting columns in the group via a transmission or broadcast path,

characterized by

selecting at least one of the lifting columns in the group for a sub-group by selectively actuating user operable selection means.